

# Conspiracy Digest

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## THE ROOTS OF CONSPIRACY: THE METAPHYSICAL PRESUPPOSITIONS OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

by  
Dr. Moshe Kroy

*Beginning with this incisive exploration of the psychological and philosophical heart of conspiracy, CONSPIRACY DIGEST will run a series of articles in which Dr. Kroy will outline his provocative and challenging views on the nature, philosophy, methods, and goals of the conspiratorial power elite.*

*Dr. Kroy teaches philosophy at LaTrobe University in Australia. This paper was originally presented at a conference convened at Australia's Macquarie University (April 16-17, 1977) to discuss Murray Rothbard's masterpiece in defense of the free-market: MAN, ECONOMY, AND STATE.*

Man, Economy and State, the book from which the present conference has derived its theme, provides a very systematic, coherent, and valid derivation of the necessary disintegration of any attempted planned economy. The argument is, basically, a restatement of von Mises' argument in *Human Action*, suitably modernized and improved upon. Despite their high level of technical competence, and their impressive logical apparatus, and irrespective of their very worrying conclusions, both books, and the whole tradition of economic thinking they represent, have been largely ignored by the academic establishment of economics. By "ignored" I mean *ignored*, and not *refuted*.

Mainstream economics seems not even to have bothered to try to show why they neglect the powerful argumentation of the free market economists. They have just continued to act and behave as if this argumentation never existed. Isn't this fact of some concern and interest?

Many possible explanations come to mind. Most of them relate to the sociology of academic research. Academics, such an explanation would venture, belong usually to a closed, or relatively closed, tradition. They consider their interests to be defined both by a very specifically defined literature and a very specific reference group. It is this reference group, in turn, which would determine their professional career in terms of jobs and publications. It is both idealistic and old fashioned, this explanation would continue, to expect academics to be concerned with truth or with solutions to problems.

Rather, as anybody else, they would be interested with promotion, prestige, social acceptability, publishability — none of these interests being served too well by a perverted interest in rebellious schools of thinking.

This explanation, however, does not seem to me fully satisfying, despite its elegant, cynical nature. It is true that the "rank and file" economists would apply such considerations. But these do not apply to the "opinion leaders" of the field, those few well known "authorities" who have shown, if only by reference to their sociological status, that they have some ability for independent work, or, at least, for creating the impression that they possess such an ability. How come that a non-idiot like Galbraith, who is one of the extreme advocates of a fully planned economy, has

managed to ignore completely the von Mises tradition? Is it due to non-reading, or non-comprehension? Or are there other reasons involved?

The purpose of the present paper is to argue that there are such reasons, and that they are, at least partially, of a relevant nature. More specifically, they refer to either hidden premises or to tacit premises which separate libertarian, free enterprise oriented economists from the official spokesman for planned economy. The distinction drawn in the last sentence is not accidental. Tacit premises are premises of which one is not aware, because they are not articulated explicitly. Hidden premises are premises somebody has been acting carefully to hide. So he must have been well aware of them in the first place, but considered it not to be to his advantage to advertise them. The reference to "hidden premises" does imply assignment of impure motives — but I can't see any valid reason for a contrary presumption. After all, to assume that all academic researchers are, by necessity, virtuous, human loving angels, who can be criticized only by reference to their intellectual or scholarly shortcomings, seems to be very arbitrary. The late Adolph Hitler and the contemporary Idi Amin have already shaken the similar presumption concerning the fundamental good nature and benevolence of heads of states. I see no *a priori* reason to exempt academics, in respect of their professional work, from the suspicion of ulterior motive served through these works, motives which have nothing to do with truth, knowledge, or even good form. Later arguments, I hope, will show that this suspicion derives from more than a personal persecution complex.

## THE BASIC ASSUMPTION OF FREE ECONOMICS

*Man, Economy and State*, which I'll henceforth take, for reasons of convenience alone, as the standard reference exposition of Austrian free economy, is, like other masterpieces of economic thought of all traditions, a deductive treatise. It proceeds not by an empirical analysis of economic activities, but by a logical derivation of the conditions and nature of economic activity. As such, this derivation must rest on assumptions which are, in the context of economic theory, axiomatic. Namely, at least for economic theory, these assumptions must stand beyond the need of proof. Rothbard is well aware of this fact, and, actually selects for attention his fundamental assumption in the very beginning of his book: (p. 1) "Human action is governed by a certain purpose that the actor has in view. The purpose of a man's act is his end; the desire to achieve this end is the man's motive for instituting the action. We could not conceive of human beings who do not act purposefully, who have no ends in view that they desire and attempt to attain. Things that did not act, that did not behave purposefully, would no longer be classified as human."

"It is this fundamental truth — this axiom of human action — that forms the key to our study . . . economics is based on an analysis of the necessary logical implications of this concept . . ."

Thus, economic theory, while itself not including any detailed study of human nature, is based on certain specific assumptions concerning the nature of man: that man possesses certain abilities — to wit — con-



sciousness, desire (or will) and action. Man can set up a purpose, of which he may be aware, and act in order to realize this purpose. This is an assumption Rothbard considers to be beyond dispute, for reasons to be immediately touched upon.

Thus, all of Rothbard's argument (or, if you wish, the whole argument in favour of a free economy) is predicated on this assumption. The assumption itself lies, of course, outside of the domain of political economy. It belongs to the study of the fundamental nature of existence - metaphysics. Hence the title of this paper refers to *metaphysical presuppositions*. This fact alone implies the following consequences:

- (a) Thinkers who disagree with this basic axiom, and start from different basic axioms, would be left unimpressed by Rothbard's argument. Moreover, in view of the fact that this axiom of human action is not, in itself, part of economics, they would not consider it their professional concern to criticize it.
- (b) Thinkers who do not consider economics to be, basically, a theoretical study, but as a manipulative tool, would ignore Rothbard's arguments for other, though related reason: The reason is, that Rothbard's conception of man allows for a very interesting paradox, which Rothbard did not take into account. This paradox can be used to motivate and make possible a planned economy. This is the paradox of freedom, to be discussed later.

I will elaborate the first point. It relates to the basic tacit (not hidden) premise of planned economy — one which is very pervasive in our culture.

### DETERMINISTIC MATERIALISM AND PLANNED ECONOMY

The official view of man, propagated by intellectuals of all professions, which underlies also official economics, is that man is, basically, a material entity, a form of a complex machine. As such, his actions are (pre) determined by a variety

of causes, to be analyzed on various levels: physiological, chemical, biological, or even sociological and psychological. However, whatever the details of this causal analysis, its very nature implies that man *does not*, introspection notwithstanding, act purposefully, he is not aware of any purposes, because he has none, and he does not act to achieve anything, he only *reacts* to stimuli. The difference between man and a robot is only complexity and materials.

This view of man is hailed as "scientific." Behavioristic psychology and materialistic philosophy take it for granted, as if it had been proved by "hard" science (namely, physics, chemistry, biology). To reject this view of man is to betray a "reactionary," sentimental allegiance to the idea that man is a conscious, willing, aware, subject, an "I." This idea is, however, out of place in modern times, due to its religious ancestry.

Granted that man is a material, deterministic, machine, however, a planned economy seems to follow. You can plan for a factory, consisting of many machines, by reference to input output requirements. Why not plan for a factory which is a whole society?

"Scientifically" speaking, each human machine has its own input requirements — human needs — such as food, clothes, shelter, transport from and to work, programming (education), etc. Each "human resource" can produce work. It is possible to plan mathematically a complete system which survives by producing according to consumption needs, and allocates products according to consumption needs. This is a planned economy. Granting the assumption that man is a machine, it is the only possible form of economy. Granting this assumption, it can be stable and survive indefinitely.

Clearly, whoever holds this assumption can ignore Rothbard's argument, because he starts by full denial of his basic axiom. Thus, the fundamental disagreement between planned economy thinkers and free enterprise economists lies precisely *here*. Thus, it is easy to see why a Galbraith, say, who

assumes, as any good Marxist does, that "consciousness is a by-product of material forces," would ignore Rothbard and von Mises, and for good reasons. But the matter does not end here.

### THE MATERIALIST PARADOX

The materialistic deterministic view of man is, however, untenable for very obvious, logical reasons. The opponents of this view have reiterated the argument disproving this view of man many times — and none of them ever understood why he was ignored. Let us review this argument, just to see why it would be ignored.

If man is a machine, he is incapable of knowledge. Knowledge requires awareness, as well as purpose and truth. To obtain knowledge, one must be able to make decisions, judgements. One must possess metaphysical freedom of decision. Thus, if man is a machine, this fact, nor any other, is not knowable by man. How do materialists — determinists justify their claim to know, all the more so scientifically, that man is a machine? They must be machines, as well. Thus, by their own admission, they make a claim which cannot be justified, nor even understood. (A machine understands nothing. A computer may compute, but a human consciousness of a programmer is required to interpret its meaningless symbols).

This argument is very obvious. Still, it has been totally ignored. Why? Here, we go from the realm of tacit assumptions to that of hidden assumptions. Clearly, nobody can write a book which purports to communicate knowledge, and, at the same time, deny that he is capable of possessing knowledge, communicating it, or understanding it. One must be too stupid to make such a move — and none of the prominent thinkers of the materialistic deterministic tradition — is that stupid.

This argument applies with equal force to economics. To plan an economy, somebody must be there who can plan. Machines don't plan themselves. A conscious being is required to plan — someone satisfying the basic axiom of Rothbard. Someone with conscious-

ness, will and ability to act. Planning requires, in the trivial case, planners. If the planners are planned, then logic leads us, by necessity, to unplanned planners. How are they possible? That is, granting that man is a material machine, predetermined by forces which have nothing to do with allegedly illusory consciousness and will?

Now, critics of the dominant materialistic deterministic view of man, or, more narrowly, of planned economy, have stopped at this point. Naively, they were of the opinion that they made their point, and the fact that nobody answered it indicates that they were undefeatable. Were they?

I am driving to make a point here which is very simple, but, at the same time, quite shocking, and hence hard to digest. That is why I make all these introductions. What I want to say is very unpleasant to say. It is much more safe to remain in the realm of logical arguments concerning assumptions, and not to examine human motives underlying the publication of such arguments. Truth, however, as well as commitment to the cause of freedom, compels me to voice this point — and I'll leave it to you to judge it.

The point is: nobody is so stupid to not know that a planned economy cannot consist only of planned robots, but also of planners, and that if man is,

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generally, a robot, the intellectuals who claim he is, provenly a robot, could not logically be robots. But this fact can be hidden. The point is, of course, the planners do not consider themselves machines to be planned. Rather, they believe that two kinds of human beings exist, or can be made to exist: robots and thinkers, machines and programmers, workers and managers, subjects and rulers. This, of course, is an old idea. Plato has made his political philosophy out of it. There are, basically, two kinds of man: at least, and one kind should rule the other. Aristotle spoke, no less frankly, about "natural slaves" and "natural masters." Today, it is not fashionable to draw attention to this division. It is simply presupposed, and made hidden.

Let me put this same issue in different language: Those who speak about man as a machine, or about economic planning, want to say something different: they want to say: "We are the elite. We were born to rule. We can think and plan. The rest are mindless bodies, born to hard work and no thought. They have to be made to live, as befits their nature, as slaves, in a slave economy, which we will run and manage."

But this is not the whole message. Plato, after all, failed because he was too sincere. People, even machines, do not want to hear that others are better than them. Moreover, they obey better hidden masters, masked by "the state." Thus, it is surprising, but should not really be, that the same people speak about man as a machine, about the need to plan the economy, about state control of the economy, and about "human equality." We are all equal, said Orwell, except those who are more equal. These, however, should be hidden. Hence, they would not be attacked.

Now, a group which tries to establish its own supremacy over others by hidden means is, by dictionary definition, a conspiracy. Hence, my argument implies that there is a conspiratorial motive behind the "planners." They speak about "equalitarianism" as the moral justification for their recommendation to plan the economy. They mean, of course, elitism. They also understand each other

quite well when they speak about "equalitarianism." All robots are equal, not us, of course. But others, including genuinely intelligent libertarian thinkers fail to understand. They attack in the name of the law of non-contradiction. There is no contradiction here: It is not contradictory to deny that there is one race of man, and to assert that there are two: Thinkers and brutes. It is dishonest to hide this premise, but again, it all depends on what you want to achieve: you can't very well make people allow you to rule them by telling them they are inferior to you. Rather, tell them everybody is equal, and should be made so by "the state" which is, seemingly, impersonal. Since they are brute, or at least brutish, they won't find out that the *State is you and your friends*. An explicit aristocracy can be attacked. A hidden aristocracy can be immune to attack.

There is another point here, which makes understanding of this fundamental fact hard: the use of language. One of the oldest tricks known in communication is the use of *code*, which does not communicate to all, only to those elected to understand it. But the best code is the one which does communicate, falsely, to some and truly to others. Such a code was developed by Hegel, called "dialectics." It was also called "logic," but this was a dialectical trick, because the basic principle of dialectics, as a code, is that you use contraries as names, so as to refer to war by "peace," to slavery by "freedom," and to a double class society as a "classless society." Thus, dialectics, which is anti-logic, can be called, dialectically, logic.

Now, such a gimmick is most useful: it deceives your victims, but allows for free and open communication to your fellow conspirators. The masses fall for it. They believe that the government can increase their welfare, by taxation. They have never bothered to check what is the dialectical definition of "welfare" (general poverty, of course, which is what any "welfare state" proceeds towards and tries to achieve). Your friends, in the know, understand you immediately. Only the real fools, such as libertarians

and other straight-thinking, straight-speaking individuals may fall in, and attack you for being inconsistent: But such fools can safely be ignored, because, indeed, they don't know what they are talking about.

Thus, taking dialectics into account, it is simple to understand what planned economies are based on: on the assumption that some men think, others don't, and that the first should rule the second, using "the state" as their magical "coat of invisibility."

Now, is this assumption correct? Aren't the planners trapping themselves by ignoring the possibility (or fact) that it isn't? Here I reach my last point, the paradox of freedom, already referred to, and it shows that they are not deceiving themselves at all — only to understand their full purpose and meaning a greater courage is needed than what seems due, at first glance.

## THE PARADOX OF FREEDOM

The paradox of freedom has an old philosophical history, and many versions. It is very deep, metaphysically, and of alarming practical significance. Rothbard, unfortunately, and other libertarian thinkers never followed its consequences to their full, alarming outcome. To state the paradox fully, a theological version thereof may be helpful: Can God, who is, by assumption, totally omniscient and totally omnipotent, hence absolutely free, create a stone he cannot lift? Whatever answer you give, you seem to end in a contradiction. But this is only an illusion. The answer is: God can create such a stone, and thereby give up his own omnipotence, and become less than God. In other words, freedom, as exercised in time, can reduce itself. As a free agent, I can decide I will never make any further decisions, and that I will never remember this very decision. Having made this decision, due to my freedom, which implies my ability to control my own existence by my decisions, I have lost, for good, my power of decision, and have been transformed into an entity which can only react, not initiate action. God, actually, could decide also to become a stone, and, in view of his as-

sumed power, become one, irrevocably. A free man can sell himself as a slave, and thereby renounce his freedom. A sovereign of a state can use his sovereignty to transfer rule to another, thus losing sovereignty by exercising it. These are all examples, for one basic logical pattern. And this pattern shows how Rothbard's first axiom (which, indeed, nobody could sensibly and honestly deny, without, by his demonstration of his power of judgment (through denial, prove its truth) can lead to a planned economy. What is needed here is only some inducement, some help, by those who "plan" to the others to become robots, zombies or machines.

Here another subject comes to the picture: Modern psychology. Many thinking individuals ignore this subject because they consider it to be "unscientific," due to its failure to provide any practical method to solve any human problem: Insanity, mental anguish, education, family life, none of them was really and substantially helped by the application of psychological "knowledge." This attitude of ignoring psychology is, however, mistaken, because psychology has operated, from its conception, towards a completely different aim: Control of human behavior. Skinner, the writer of "beyond freedom and dignity" made this fact very clear. Psychology is intended to teach how one can *transform* a human being from a free agent to a stimulus response conditioned reflex machine. Clearly, Skinner does not believe he, himself, needs to be controlled — who could control the controllers? The same old question. Rather, he should control others. And, indeed, psychology has grown: Drugs, shocks, starvation, aversion conditioning, hypnosis, educational brainwashing, all these are valid psychological techniques for the subjugation of free individuals, for making them suitable subjects in a planned society.

It can be protested that I am going here beyond the realm of economics, as well as philosophy. Not so. Psychological control is possible in virtue of the paradox of freedom. Psychology, as a discipline, can be defined as a collection of practical inducements technique needed



to make a free agent give up, gradually, his freedom. As such, it is essential for a planned society, because otherwise the planning would not work. USSR is, economically, failing. This was due to the use of fear and physical punishment as means of control. These techniques are unsophisticated. The Chinese methods of "group pressure" do work — China has managed to demonstrate a planned economy which can stably survive, by total enslavement, robotisation or zombification, choose your term, of its population.

#### SUMMARY

On one level, the disagreement between free enterprise economists and planned economy fans concerns human nature: A metaphysically free man can survive only in a free economy; a robot can only survive in a planned economy.

On a deeper level, the disagreement is in motive: Granting man's fundamental freedom, one can derive the paradox of freedom. This allows for some men acting so as to make others relinquish their freedom, and for a planned economy, or, more extensively a planned society where a minority of "thinking intellectuals," hidden by the impenetrable screen of anonymity (The State), rules a vast majority of robotized workers. Clearly, those who desire this form of elitism, cannot advocate it openly. They have to hide both intent and premises, and to pay the relatively light price of seeming inconsistent. The fact that someone possesses an academic position does not imply that he is concerned with truth more than power. And to argue with one who wants power on the assumption that he wants truth is both to misunderstand his position and to waste one's time.

Another perspective: A planned society is not only economically and politically controlled, but, most significantly, psychologically. It can survive. China, and Sweden, demonstrate that. Man as man wouldn't survive, except for a select elite of smart, and corrupt, leading "planners." But then, who would care?

Thus, the real issue we face is not: planned economy and economic doomsday vs economic

freedom and prosperity. It is: Human existence, or slave existence. Orwell grasped that well, and we have 7 years to go till 1984. Big Brother, and his many intellectual helpers — economists, philosophers, psychologists, sociologists, political scientists — are acting cleverly.

Shall we stop them in time?

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#### — FLASH —

*Boondock Charlie and the Misunderstood Fed* by Eric Way (CD Fall 1976) has been published in the *Congressional Record* (July 11, 1977) by Senator Jesse Helms. We are making waves!

#### THE STATE OF RESEARCH CONCERNING POWER ELITES

by  
Antony Sutton

CONSPIRACY DIGEST is proud to present the first of a series of exclusive articles by Antony Sutton.

The most fascinating, but still largely unexplored, research topic today is that of the history and current operations of the power elites shaping our world. Yet, only within the last decade have professional analysts and historians entered this arena which has long been the preserve of amateur historians, i.e. those whose main occupation is something other than the compilation and analysis of information.

The professional analysis of power elites and power elite operations, while long overdue, today covers a widening spectrum ranging from national intelligence organizations, intrigued by the internationalist antics of the United States and the Soviet Union, to slower moving and historically oriented academics.

The earlier amateur analysis which began in the 1920's, while a pathbreaking and a valiant effort, has been something of a roadblock to professional analysis. This is because of the manner in which the term "conspiracy" has been applied, almost as an article of faith, to explain anything and everything suspicious that moves or breathes without providing much in the way of hard supporting evidence. This naive approach has enabled the power elites and their representatives to apply the label "paranoid" or the cliché "devil theory of history" and scare off to a considerable extent serious consideration of power elite operations and objectives. In brief, the amateur "conspiracy" discussion has been around "how" power elites are presumed to operate forgetting that it is equally important to know "who" and "why," or even "whether" conspiracy is a necessary or valid explanation for specific events.

The fundamental difference between the "amateur" and the "professional" approach concerns the rules of methodological procedure. There are generally accepted rules of scientific procedure. Any interpretation of events that is intended to survive in history has to conform to such rules. The hall mark of "amateur" analysis has been to place explanation before examination, i.e. to arrive at conclusions before providing evidence on which conclusions are based. In other words a causal explanation of an event is not necessarily a correct explanation just because someone intuitively believes it to be so. An elementary point maybe, but thousands of pages of "conspiracy" literature have little more substance than a belief that a particular explanation of events is true and other possible explanations are not true.

By contrast the scientific method, the basis of all modern research, is a method based on observation, measurement and rational induction from these observations. This method does not start with the answer. The method explores in order to find a probable answer. It first observes by collecting and analyzing information and then makes rational conclusions

from these observations. Therefore, a scientific method cannot start with an explanation of "conspiracy" and then proceed to compile and write an accurate history, a procedure too often adopted by the amateur historian. The only scientifically acceptable method is (1) hypothesis, (2) accumulation of data, (3) application of data to a hypothesis, (4) rational formulation of conclusions.

As a case in point, the existence of an overall "conspiracy" among power elites is — at this time — no more than a hypothesis waiting to be examined along with dozens of other equally valid hypotheses. (Such as competing conspiracy models — Ed) At least that is the cautious assumption we should be making.

The reader may well interject at this point some comment like "what about John Robison's book PROOFS OF CONSPIRACY?"

At the turn of the 19th century John Robison was Professor of Natural Philosophy at University of Edinburgh and Secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. The evidence in Robison's book is largely acceptable, even when balanced against contemporary critiques. Further, Robison can be supported today by material not available in the late 18th century. This material has been published in German (but not translated into English) and we certainly know a lot more today about the Illuminati than Robison did in the 1790's. For example, Alfred Becker *CHRISTIAN GOTTLÖB NEEFE UND DIE BONNER ILLUMINATEN* (Bouvier Verlag, Bonn 1969) in spite of its briefness presents a more precise outline of operations of the Order than the rambling Robison book, and Bernhard Beyer, *FREIMAUEREREI IN MÜNCHEN UND ALTBAIERN* (Hamburg 1973) provides even more information.

From these and other sources we find two crucial points to be noted about Robison which are ignored by modern conspiratorialists:

- (a) Robison on his title page suggests a broader target than the Illuminati alone. The title page of *PROOFS OF A CONSPIRACY* reads " . . . secret meetings of



free masons, illuminati and reading societies." Present day holders of the Illuminati theory, particularly members of the John Birch Society, often ignore the equal attention proposed for freemasons and reading societies. Recent German literature does not make this error, and an extraordinary book published in England, Stephen Knight, **JACK THE RIPPER: THE FINAL SOLUTION** confirms Robison's wider perspectives.

- (b) There is no major evidence at this time that the Illuminati survived as an organization after about 1800 (although of course both reading societies and freemasons survived and the latter flourished after 1800).

The only notable exception to this observation on the Illuminati is the work by Rabbi Marvin Antelman **TO ELIMINATE THE OPIATE**, a recent study tracing the Illuminati through reform Judaism. Antelman's book adopts the scientific procedure and may in time prove to be a new research path to be explored.

An anonymous book entitled **SEVENTEEN EIGHTY NINE** published by the John Birch Society in 1967 to present the case for a presumed link between the Illuminati and the "communist conspiracy" confirms that in fact no evidence exists for the existence of Illuminati after 1800. The book describes a period four decades before the word "socialism" came into use and many decades before the word "communism" had its present meaning. Notably, both freemasons and reading societies are ignored in **SEVENTEEN EIGHTY NINE**. The anonymous author leaves Adam Weishaupt living in comfortable seclusion at the house of the Duke of Saxe Gotha in the year 1800. No one has picked up the research trail at this place and time in history.

No evidence has been presented (apart from in Antelman's work) that the Order of the Illuminati, as an organization, survived beyond 1800. It is conceivable that their ideas survived in other forms, and through other organizations (this is Antelman's approach)

but this research problem has by and large not been tackled. The assumption that the Illuminati became the Communist Party can be balanced by an equally valid assumption that the Illuminati or its ideas became part of the European Establishment: both are unproven assertions.

This apparent disdain for factual research by "amateur" conspiracy buffs has led them to overlook interesting 19th century reflections of the Illuminati which a little digging would have discovered. For example, the Hegelian triad, the philosophical basis for modern totalitarianism, is better attributed to Fichte — and Fichte was a member of the Illuminati. This disdain also suggests why "conspiracy" historians have made little factual progress over the last decade. Once you assume a "conspiracy" there is no incentive to dig further for factual evidence. If you already "know" the answer why look for proof?

The paradox today is that investigators who are skeptical about an all encompassing, monolithic "master conspiracy" — such as this writer — are aware of more hard evidence on past Illuminati operations than those who have accepted the "master conspiracy" explanation without probing for factual evidence. Another paradox is that elitist objectives are not in any way secret objectives — they are broadly catalogued in **FOREIGN AFFAIRS** — and there is no *a priori* reason why **NEW WORLD ORDER** objectives could not be achieved by ad hoc groups with a common philosophy and not working within any formal organization.

Further, the significant historical phenomenon of Pan Germanism and the influence of Karl Ritter are ignored by our Illuminati theorists. Nesta Webster has a chapter on Pan Germanism but this chapter is notable for its dependence on secondary French rather than primary German sources. Nesta Webster has assumed an answer; consequently there is no impetus to look for evidence. Energy is spent on propagandising the "answer" rather than investigation of facts. This unscientific approach dooms Illuminati theorists to an eternal treadmill. Repeating a mantra based on the words "illumi-

nati" and "Master Conspiracy" does not bring about the physical existence of these categories, nor will it convince most people.

Most of us operate on the basis of at least rudimentary observation and if we do act on the basis of illusion we prefer our own illusions to someone else's.

Is there a "master conspiracy?" I don't know in the scientific sense. And nobody else does either for the period since 1800. On the other hand, "conspiracy" is a hypothesis well worth investigating along lines of scientific procedure i.e. collect evidence and make rational inductions from the evidence.

Does any modern historical literature fit these criteria for part of the overall scheme?

One book that comes to mind in the academic sphere is Carroll Quigley's **TRAGEDY AND HOPE** (based on two years' work in the Council on Foreign Relations files). William Domhoff's **WHO RULES AMERICA** is another candidate, so is Gary Allen's **NONE DARE CALL IT CONSPIRACY** which relies heavily on factual data and from that deduces a conspiracy. But these are limited aspects of a gigantic research problem. **THE OCCULT TECHNOLOGY OF POWER**, on the other hand, is an exercise in hypothesizing — presented as such — and valuable because it suggests areas requiring factual exploration.

Works that do NOT fit within the category of scientific procedure are numerous. Nesta Webster has to be rejected because it is difficult to separate fact from fiction. For example, see pages 155 et. seq of **THE FRENCH REVOLUTION**. How accurate a portrayal is this of actual events? and how much is fictionalized reconstruction? While Josephson in **ROOSEVELT'S COMMUNIST MANIFESTO** was on the right track with his hypotheses he was sloppy at handling facts.

Yet another category is the United States Labor Party. Remarkably detailed in facts, more so than any other current sources, these facts require disentanglement from psychological assumptions, i.e. that everyone is a unit in some synthetic vehicle created by the Establishment, whereas in fact

most of us strive as much as we can to disassociate ourselves from such vehicles.

What then are the differences between professional analysis based on scientific methodology and amateur historians in the study of power elites?

Possibly the major difference is that the professional never looks for instant black and white answers. Aware of the complexity of most events coupled with a built-in caution and experience, a professional will wait for the story to emerge and then decide on the explanation. Even then the story may be cast in shades of grays rather than absolute blacks and whites. In other words we don't live in a world of bad guys and good guys. We live in a world where most people — including would-be elitists — are sometimes bad and sometimes good, in which only a few make a lifetime career of doing one or the other exclusively. We also live in a world where anyone making a career of anti-social actions will have gone to great pains to conceal the trail, meaning the facts are not always what they seem at first glance. Further, there is little question that anti-social elitists absorb useful ideas and efforts not originating within the elite. For example George Ball's recent book **DIPLOMACY FOR A CROWDED WORLD** has five lines taken (i.e. stolen) directly — without acknowledgment — from this writer's 1972 Miami Beach speech. Ball is the Wall Street Establishment lawyer who almost made it as the new Chairman of the Bilderburger group.

In brief, the amateur will look for the cause of the event before examining the event itself while the professional will look at the events and the penumbra of circumstances before arriving at several if not numerous possible explanations — out of which one may appear more likely than others.

Why do not amateur historians adopt the professional approach? Probably because of fear — fear that their world is being taken away from them by unseen and apparently overwhelmingly powerful forces and that only by convincing others of this unseen force can the take-over be halted. In practice of course this irrational fearful approach based on guesswork is



self-defeating and merely guarantees the continuance of any power elites at work.

Consequently, as most research work in this area will have to be undertaken by part-time amateur historians — at least in the coming decade — it is vital that their work adhere to accepted scientific standards. The era of guesswork and strawmen is behind us. The era of precise factual examination of facts and careful induction from these facts is ahead. (To be continued).

### NAZIS, MYSTICS, AND ISLAM: IN SEARCH OF THE NAZI-MUSLIM CONNECTION

by  
Richard Gilman

*This is the last of the current series of articles by Richard Gilman on the occult-secret society roots of the conspiracy for publication in CONSPIRACY DIGEST.*

*Those interested in his approach may also want to read the Thousand Year Conspiracy by Winkler, which traces the conspiracy of the Teutonic Knights from its inception in the Holy Land during the crusades (the Muslim connection) to its support for Hitler. This book is hard-to-find. We search for it by special request only.*

Since the 1960 publication of *Le Matin des Magiciens* (*The Morning of the Magicians*) over a dozen works have been produced in France and Britain probing the relationship between Nazi ideology and certain doctrines characteristic of both Eastern religions and Western pagan cults. While *Le Matin des Magiciens* itself claimed the primary occult influence on the Nazis was that of Buddhist and Hindu mysticism later works like *Hitler et la Tradition Cathare* (briefly reviewed in the Winter 1976 issue of *Conspiracy Digest*) sought the origin of this occult stimulus primarily in Western mysticism and paganism; namely, in the legends pertaining to the Holy Grail and the doctrines of the Albigensian (Cathar) Heresy. Yet another category of works represented by Werner Gerson's *Le Nazisme, Société Secrète* and

René Alleau's *Hitler et les Sociétés Secrètes* portray Nazi occultism as a composite of oriental and occidental influences. Collectively these books represent a unique storehouse of information not only about the Nazi (Illuminati?) mentality but also about a host of interrelated secret societies including the Bavarian Illuminati, the Knights Templar, the Teutonic Knights, the Holy Vehm, the Golden Dawn, the German Order and the Thule Society. It is this last group, along with its mysterious founder, that is the special focus of our attention here.

### THE THULE SOCIETY

The Thule Society was created in August, 1918 as an offshoot from the German Order (*Germanenorden*), an Aryan occult lodge functioning ostensibly as a Teutonic anti-Freemasonry organization. Like the German Order, Thule was a neo-Gnostic racist group; its principal doctrine taught: "... that good was Aryan and evil was Semitic." (2) "The main purpose of the Thule Society ... was to constitute a rallying point for all the occult societies of like persuasion and thereby to remerge with ancient Germanic tradition." (3) Thus, Thule rapidly developed into a front for a whole group of anti-Semitic occult groups. Chief among these were the Hammer Union (*Reichshammerbund*) dominated by Theodor Fritsch and the German Order Walvater of the Holy Grail.

During the fateful spring of 1919 the Thule Society played a leading role in the resistance to the "Soviet Republic" that was briefly established in Bavaria. In fact, it was the execution of seven Thulists by the communist regime in Munich that provided the neo-Nazi groups throughout Germany with the necessary martyrs and atrocity stories to successfully arouse public opinion against the communists and Jews (4).

The crucial role played by the *Thule Gesellschaft* is well attested to by those who have made a determined effort to uncover the neo-pagan-secret society roots of Nazism. Thus the Angeberts express the conviction that:

Among the secret societies burgeoning in Germany im-

mediately after World War I ... the Vril Society and the Thule Society, otherwise known as the "Thule Gesellschaft" seem most clearly to have given birth to the Hitler movement." (5)

Likewise, Ravenscroft characterizes the Thule Society as, "the most powerful Occult Society in Germany" and Alleau provides a complete membership list of the Thule group showing that its ranks contained numerous future Nazi leaders including: Max Amman, who became editor-in-chief of publications of the Nazi Party; Anton Drexler, founder and president of the German Workers' Party (DAP); Dietrich Eckart, occultist-advisor to Hitler; Hans Frank, subsequently the infamous governor-general of Nazi-Occupied Poland; Rudolf Hess (one is tempted to speculate that his continuing imprisonment just may have something to do with the fact that he is undoubtedly one of the last living members of the Thule Society); Alfred Rosenberg and Adolf Hitler himself who belonged to the *Thule Gesellschaft* as an "associate member." (6, 7)

### THE MYSTERIOUS "BARON von SEBOTTENDORFF"

The chief architect of the *Thule Gesellschaft*, Baron Rudolf von Sebottendorff (né Rudolf Glauer), was born in Silesia in November, 1875. His father was a locomotive driver and the young Glauer eventually became an apprentice engineer. However, instead of following in his father's footsteps, at the age of 23 he went to sea. He jumped ship in Australia and after trying his luck in the goldfields there he made his way to Turkey in 1901.

It was in Turkey that the metamorphosis of Rudolf Glauer into Baron Rudolf von Sebottendorff occurred. It is claimed by Glauer-Sebottendorff that he was adopted by an aged Austrian nobleman, Baron Heinrich von Sebottendorff. Upon the death of the Austrian Baron, Rudolf Glauer claims to have inherited his title. This title, real or spurious, along with a goodly sum of money (also possibly an inheritance) stood him in good

stead upon his return to Germany in 1913.

It was during this Turkish phase of Rudolf Sebottendorff's life (he actually became a Turkish citizen) that he acquired his vast knowledge of the teachings and techniques of both oriental and occidental mysticism. Regarding Sebottendorff's Turkish experience Francis King states: "It is reported that he became acquainted with the former variety of esotericism (oriental mysticism) by means of direct personal contacts with initiates of various Dervish Orders. There is no reason to doubt this, for Sebottendorff unquestionably knew a great deal about Islamic mysticism, particularly about Sufism in all its aspects." (8)

Additional evidence concerning Sebottendorff's involvement with Islamic mysticism is given by Ravenscroft who reports that he devoted considerable time to Sufi meditation. (9)

In 1913 Sebottendorff returned to Germany fortified with a vast knowledge of the occult and substantial funds from an unknown source. During the next few years he made extensive contacts with the leading members of numerous supernaturalist occult groups that were rapidly proliferating in Germany at this time. Finally late in 1917 Sebottendorff's super-patriotism and occult expertise attracted the attention of Herman Pohl, leader of the German Order Walvater of the Holy Grail (one of the two branches of the *Germanenorden*). Shortly before Christmas 1917 Sebottendorff was appointed Bavarian section leader of Pohl's organization. During the following year he labored energetically to proliferate his occult-nationalist doctrines through the establishment of two newspapers, "Runen" and "Munchener Beobachter" (which eventually became the official journal of the Nazi Party under the name "Volkischer Beobachter"), and the founding of the Thule Society (*Thule Gesellschaft*) in Munich on August 17, 1918.

Following the murder of the seven Thulists on April 30, 1919 Sebottendorff was blamed by the majority of the members of the Thule Society for the act of fatal carelessness which resulted



in the Society's membership lists falling into the hands of the communists. Thule's founder denied this vehemently and placed the blame on another Thulist, Friedrich Knauf, commander of the "Thule Kampfbund." From this point on Sebottendorff's influence in the "Thule Gesellschaft" declined and in 1923 he again departed for Turkey where he became the honorary Council for the Mexican government.

Between 1929 and 1931 he traveled extensively in Mexico and the U.S. apparently negotiating certain commercial concessions for the Turkish government. Then in 1933 he returned to Germany to publish his momentous book, *Bevor Hitler Kam*.

### "BEFORE HITLER CAME"— SEBOTTENDORFF'S REMARKABLE REVELATIONS

In 1933, a few months after the establishment of the Nazi regime, Rudolf von Sebottendorff published in Munich a fascinating book titled *Before Hitler Came—Documentaries From the Early Epoch of the National Socialist Movement*. The remarkable revelations therein proved to be quite threatening to the Nazis and when a second edition of the book appeared in early 1934 the Bavarian political police stopped the publication of the book and with the aid of the Gestapo seized all the traceable copies of the first and second editions and had them destroyed. As a consequence "Before Hitler Came" is now virtually unobtainable and for my own research I was compelled to rely on secondary sources; namely, René Alleau's *Hitler et les Sociétés Secrètes*, Jean-Michel Angebert's *The Occult and the Third Reich* and Reginald Phelps' article "Before Hitler Came"; Thule Society and Germanen Orden." (10)

The composite picture obtained from these three accounts shows that "Before Hitler Came" contains three astonishing revelations:

1. The Nazi movement was inspired most directly by the "Thule Gesellschaft" and related groups. This was, of course, contrary to the official Nazi version expounded in *Mein Kampf*,

that National Socialism was essentially Hitler's own creation.

2. Sebottendorff claimed he wrote "Before Hitler Came" on the instructions of a mysterious (apparently Dervish) Moslem brotherhood that saw in Nazism a bulwark against the imminent spiritual destruction of the West at the hands of: "... a vast organization of disbelief, of monstrous proportions..." (11)
3. According to Sebottendorff, "secret muslim masters" had entrusted him with the mission of "illuminating" Germany." (12)

The first of these claims is discussed at length in Reginald Phelps' sixteen page article in the "Journal of Modern History" as well as in the references on Nazi-secret society connections cited in this article. To my knowledge the second and third claims have only been dealt with by French researchers. Reproduced below is the essential *raison d'être* for this article. In "Before Hitler Came" this excerpt is preceded by a detailed discussion of the importance of the Moslem religion and the ancient esoteric doctrines which Sebottendorff felt gave Islam a special dynamism:

"No one can accuse me of profanation, nor of sacrilege in uncovering the course of these mysteries... It is the means that the communities of dervishes traditionally use in order to acquire special strength by means of unusual techniques. They are, for the most part, men who aspire to the highest rite, that from which come those who have been prepared for their missions as spiritual leaders of Islam... This high rite is the practical basis of Freemasonry, and it inspired in times past the work of the alchemists and of the Rosicrucians... But to reply to the accusation of my being guilty of some kind of treachery: I say to you plainly that this book has been written on the instructions of the leaders of the order." (emphasis added) (13)

Sebottendorff then proceeds to explain why "the leaders of the order" have directed him to write "Before Hitler Came."

"A vast organization of disbelief, of monstrous proportions, intends to bend to its will the civilized world. The religious institutions have been so gravely weakened that they are not even capable of pulling themselves together, let alone putting up a united front. If spiritual leaders do not come forth in the West, chaos may bring down everything into the abyss. In this kind of danger, the Moslem Brotherhood recalled that tradition had it that there was a time, in Europe, when men possessed ultimate knowledge... The imminent danger dispelled every objection to the publication (of this work)." (emphasis added) (14)

These references to "communities of dervishes" and a "Moslem Brotherhood" are quite fascinating in their own right but to this record of testimony René Alleau adds a veritable bombshell. Almost as an afterthought he informs his readers that Sebottendorff also wrote that: "... 'secret muslim masters' had entrusted him with the mission of 'illuminating' Germany through the revelation of the secrets of advanced magic and initiation into ancient oriental mysteries." (15)

How does one evaluate such astonishing claims? The most convincing arguments for the veracity of Sebottendorff's testimony are his arrest by the Gestapo and the suppression and destruction by the Nazi regime of both "Before Hitler Came" and his autobiographical novel "The Rosicrucian Talisman." Further, we learn from Francis King that following the government's ban on "Before Hitler Came" the Thule Society was dissolved. Sebottendorff himself was released from jail only on condition that: "... he left Germany for good and promised to make no further mention of the occult affiliations of the Nazi leadership." (16) Not too surprisingly, he chose Turkey as his place of exile. He died there in 1945.

Is there other evidence of a link between the early phases of Nazism and the Moslem Middle East? Indeed there is! However, before addressing this issue I would like to assure the reader that I am in no way implying that Sebottendorff's "Moslem connection" is the total "an-

swer" to Nazi origins. Numerous revisionist writers, like Antony Sutton, have amassed unassailable evidence showing the Nazis were enormously aided by American financiers and industrialists of Wall Street and the French investigators repeatedly cited in this article stress Nazi indebtedness to the ideas of over a dozen European and oriental secret societies and religious cults including the Bavarian Illuminati itself. Many establishment writers should also be given their due; especially interesting are those who stress the influence of the "Protocols of Zion" on the early Nazis. (17)

These various theories need not be mutually exclusive. While it is becoming increasingly obvious that Nazism was a synthesis of a large number and variety of elements, future researchers should not lose sight of the need to search for a common thread running through all of these financial cliques, secret societies and occultist religious movements.

### DIRECTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

Sebottendorff was not the only student of esoteric Islam to influence the leaders of the Nazi movement nor was he the only Islamophile in the Thule Society. The material enumerated below is presented both as further evidence of a Nazi-Muslim mystic connection and as suggested avenues for further research. The search for Sebottendorff's "secret muslim masters" should include an in depth study of the following individuals and organizations:

1. *Dietrich Eckart*. This Thulist is believed to have initiated Hitler into various occult mysteries with the aid of psychedelic drugs. Pauwels and Bergier along with the Angeberts attribute to him the following deathbed speech: "Follow Hitler. He will dance, but it is I who have called the tune. We have given him the means of communicating with Them. Do not mourn me: I shall have influenced history more than any other German..." (18, 19) In this context it is especially intriguing to note that aside from racial



theory Eckart's favorite subject was the rise of Islam: "... his knowledge of the Mohammedan invasions of Europe and the art, architecture and religious symbolism of Arab culture being very extensive indeed." (20) "Eckart had journeyed widely among the Arab peoples in North Africa and had also visited the sites of the old Islamic strongholds in medieval Spain ... and ... he had made a special journey to Sicily, the melting-pot of the intrigues in the ninth century, to bring about the Arab occupation of Southern Italy and the seat of Klingsor of the Grail legends." (21)

2. *Theodor Fritsch*. Sebottendorff acknowledges Fritsch as his leading mentor (exclusive of the Dervish Masters in Turkey?). Dr. Phelps of Harvard characterizes him as: "... probably the most significant figure of German anti-Semitism before the Nazis, and the chief instigator of the political and conspiratory movement from which the Germanen Orden and the Thule grew." (22) In addition he was the author of numerous books and pamphlets and the founder of the infamous Hammer Union (*Reichshammerbund*).
3. *G. I. Gurdjieff*. Gurdjieff is renowned in occult lore for his Sufi-like teachings and his bizarre life style and personality. (23) Less appreciated were his political activities which included service as an agent in the Czarist secret police, several encounters with Karl Haushofer (a close confidant of Hitler, Hess and Rosenberg) and a reported all night meeting with Adolf Hitler himself. (24) As the most prominent member of the Vril Society (Luminous Lodge), yet another important proto-Nazi neo-pagan group, Karl Haushofer is, of course, worth study in his own right.
4. *The Bektashi Dervishes of Turkey*. We now turn to the most important element in the Nazi-Muslim equation:

the Dervish groups of Turkey. Here, our search is greatly aided by a clue provided by René Alleau, one of the leading French authorities on secret societies. Alleau feels certain that when Sebottendorff referred to "Leaders of the Order" (who commanded him to write "Before Hitler Came") he was, in fact, referring to the famous Bektashi Order of Dervishes. (25) This most politicized of all Anatolian Dervish groups was once one of the most powerful organizations in the Ottoman Empire. For over three centuries the Bektashis served as "chaplains" to the Janissaries, the body of men who comprised the standing army of the Turkish Empire. The Bektashis were involved in numerous conspiracies against various Turkish Sultans until 1826 when their power was broken. However, they went underground and eighty years later they played a crucial role in the Young Turk movement which overthrew the last of the Sultans in 1908. (26) Thus it was under the regime of the Bektashi-influenced Young Turks that Turkey entered World War I on the side of Germany.

I would like to close with a personal note by stating that Alleau's assertion that Sebottendorff's Turkish mentors were the Bektashis is very exciting to me because it is now known that the Bektashi Dervishes have been associated with the Sabbatian cult, on and off, from its inception in the late 1660's until the early part of the present century. (27) In fact, the leadership of the Young Turk movement was largely drawn from the ranks of the Dervish Orders (the Bektashis as well as other Orders) and the Sabbatians. (28) It is chilling to contemplate, in the context of our foregoing discussion, that it was this same Young Turk movement that carried out the first mass genocide of the 20th century, the murder of one and one half million Armenians. This points up the great importance of studying the

various cults and secret societies mentioned above.

Richard Gilman  
7/1/77

## FOOTNOTES

1. Louis Pauwels and Jacques Bergier, *The Morning of the Magicians* (New York: Avon, 1968). This is the paperback translation from the French that aroused much interest in the early 70's.
2. Jean-Michel Angebert, *The Occult and the Third Reich* (New York: Macmillan, 1974), p. 9. Available from "Insights" for \$7.60.
3. *Ibid.*
4. Three others were executed along with the Thulists. Among these was Ernst Berger, a Jewish professor, who was sentenced to death for making anti-communist remarks. Needless to say, Berger's murder was studiously ignored by the ultra-nationalist press.
5. Angebert, op. cit., p. 163.
6. Trevor Ravenscroft, *The Spear of Destiny* (New York: Bantam Books, 1973), p. 102.
7. René Alleau, *Hitler et les Sociétés Secrètes* (Paris: Editions Bernard Grasset, 1969), p. 245-263.
8. Francis King, *Satan and Swastika* (St. Albans: Hazell Watson & Viney Ltd., 1976), p. 88.
9. Ravenscroft, op. cit., p. 158.
10. Reginald H. Phelps, "'Before Hitler Came': Thule Society and Germanen Orden," *Journal of Modern History*, September 1963, no. 3.
11. *Bevor Hitler Kam* as cited by Angebert, op. cit., p. 166.
12. Alleau, op. cit., legend for photographic illustration no. 27.
13. See footnote no. 11.
14. *Bevor Hitler Kam* as cited by Alleau, op. cit., p. 163.
15. See footnote no. 12.
16. King, op. cit., p. 160-161.
17. For example, see Chapter 6, "The Protocols Reach

Germany" in Norman Cohen's *Warrant for Genocide* (published by Harper & Row, 1966). Interestingly those individuals suspected of originating the "Protocols" were all deeply involved with religious mysticism or the occult. Thus Maurice Joly, author of *Dialogues in Hell Between Montesquieu and Machiavelli* (regarded by many as the original source of much of the material in the "Protocols"), was a Rosicrucian, the author-monk Sergey Nilus was a Russian Orthodox mystic and a pupil of an ex-Theosophist named Vesvolod Solovyoff and Czar Nicholas II was a student of Sufism! This fascinating new information about Czar Nicholas has recently come to light with the publication of *A Man Called Intrepid*. In 1912 the Czar invited to the Kremlin no less an authority than Hazrat Inayat Khan, founder of the Sufi Order of the West, in order to be instructed in the mysteries of Sufism (see page 236 in the Ballantine paperback edition).

18. Pauwels and Bergier, op. cit., p. 275.
19. Angebert, op. cit., p. 173.
20. Ravenscroft, op. cit., p. 155.
21. *Ibid.*, p. 156.
22. Phelps, op. cit., p. 247.
23. Indries Shah, *The Way of the Sufi* (New York: Dutton, 1970), p. 40.
24. Werner Gerson, *Le Nazisme, société secrète* (Paris: Production De Paris, 1976), p. 223.
25. Alleau, op. cit., p. 163-164.
26. E. Ramsaur, "The Bektashi Dervishes and the Young Turks," *The Moslem World*, Vol. 32, no. 1, p. 7-14. See also Bernard Lewis, *The Emergence of Modern Turkey* (London: Oxford University Press, 1969), p. 408-409.
27. This gnostic cult which has been operating within and on the fringes of Jewish society since the later part of the seventeenth century has been a special interest of mine. The Sabbatians are briefly discussed in my



article in the Fall 1976 issue of "Conspiracy Digest." Gershom Scholem's monumental work, *Sabbatai Sevi — The Mystical Messiah* (published by Princeton University Press), contains some interesting information on Sabbatai Sevi's relationship with the Bek-tashi Dervishes (see pages 836 and 837).

28. Joachim Prinz, *The Secret Jews* (New York: Random House, 1973), p. 122. See also *The Messianic Idea in Judaism* (New York: Schocken, 1971), p. 158-159. See also footnote no. 26.

## THE INTERPOL CONSPIRACY

by  
Linda Barragan

In 1923, in Germany, psychiatrists began formulating a philosophy that later bloomed into what was known as the Euthanasia program. Prior to the War as early as 1920, books were published which advocated that psychiatrists be protected from legal recourse, if they took it upon themselves to kill citizens, whose lives were "devoid of value." Later Hitler removed the gas chambers from the mental institutions, where senior citizens were sent for "psychological testing," and gased, to Concentration camps, which carried out the "Final Solution" for the Jewish problem.

In 1923, in Vienna, another group was formed, the International Criminal Police Organization, later known as INTERPOL, its telex designation. Prior to the War, Interpol was set up by Dr. Oscar Dressler, to "assist police forces throughout the world," by possessing files on citizens in every major country. Later Hitler moved Interpol to Berlin with Dressler, and its headquarters housed the "Final Solution Conference."

During the war years, from 1939-45, the presidents of Interpol, were the heads of the SS and Gestapo, Reinhard Heydrich and Ernst Kaltenbrunner. Hitler knew well the power of files and dossiers on citizens and used them to his full advantage. Blackmail even of his own people was the order of the

day, and the Interpol files served their purpose.

There is no question that the philosophy of Dr. Dressler, who, one of the original brainstormers of Interpol's birth was fascistic in nature. This may sound like an understatement, but a student of the history of Interpol will come across a remarkable PR campaign that has been run by the executives of the organization, to separate Interpol from its criminal past.

Interpol, in its own literature, actually claimed that the organization ceased to exist during the war, despite irrefutable documentation, pictures of their own magazine, and Berlin War documents, laying out the entire saga of Interpol's Nazi history. This information was presented to Congress 3 years ago, yet Interpol claimed that Interpol was not really Interpol.

In 1946, the continuity of Interpol's Nazi ties continued, when F. E. Louwage, again, moved the headquarters, after retrieving the Nazi funds and files from a bank in Berlin. The new home was Paris, France, and the new family leader, F. E. Louwage, had just terminated his services as the head of the Belgian political police, under Hitler.

From 1946-68, Interpol was in quite a turmoil with United States membership. The Attorney General was the official Interpol representative, beginning with the passage of a bill in 1938, which also authorized the payment of dues to the organization. In 1952, J. Edgar Hoover, who was the designated representative, appointed by the Attorney General, refused all cooperation with the private international police force. The reason was that he felt they were motivated politically and leaned toward a Communist sympathy. Interpol at that time, apparently, was attempting to force Hoover to assist in tracking down Czechoslovakian anti-Communist refugees who fled the country for America.

In 1952, Interpol was in limbo, being run unofficially out of the Treasury Department. In 1958, Interpol was officially in the Treasury Department. No major events occurred other than citizens and artists throughout the world falling victim to false Interpol

files which were circulated internationally.

With Nixon as President in 1968, Paul Dickopf became the president of Interpol. Both men remained president until 1972. Paul Dickopf was SS Gruppenfuhrer, SS # 337259, and high ranking officer in the dreaded SD. It was no mystery how Interpol from 1968-72 obtained large donations from Venezuela and Brazil, so that the headquarters could be moved to a 7 story building in the fashionable suburb of St. Cloud, France. The U.S. office also expanded from a part time staff member to 12 full time staff and new quarters.

In 1976, the Justice Department made a bid for Interpol, and the Attorney General ordered the operation back in to the Justice Department.

In the past 3 years, there have been 6 Congressional investigations into Interpol's Nazi history and background, as well as their infringement on the privacy rights of American citizens. On the state level 5 bills have been proposed to ban all Interpol operations on the state level.

The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) also initiated a 10 month, 10 country investigation into Interpol, and discovered that in all sample cases studied by the GAO, not one case that Interpol handled over the past year involved international criminals, drug traffickers, or organized crime figures.

This year Joshua Eilberg (D-Pa), began an investigation into Interpol's involvement in blackmailing multinational corporations to obtain funds for Nixon's re-election campaign. The investigation will continue this fall in Washington, D.C., in Eilberg's Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship and International Law.

Despite the federal investigations and revelations about Interpol's past and privacy infringements, no legislation has been proposed to curb this kingdom of cops from stretching its international arms to every corner of the globe.

Interpol currently has access to FBI, CIA, IRS and local and federal crime information files which it can distribute to any of its 125 countries, 90% of which are non-democratic in nature, including Yugoslavia, Rumania, Cuba and Syria.

Interpol has traditionally refused to assist in locating Nazi War criminals or terrorists as it claims that it is not a political organization and terrorism and genocide are political crimes. Still no legislation has been proposed on a Federal level.

Police officials throughout the United States, in response to the state bills to ban Interpol have become increasingly vocal in their criticism of Interpol. One detective in Florida, in response to Rep. Eric Smith (D-Miami)'s proposed bill stated, "Interpol has provided my department with information which was found to be unsubstantiated false allegations, based on personal vendetta rather than effective law enforcement, and has placed my police department as well as law enforcement in general at risk."

The National Commission on Law Enforcement and Social Justice (NCLE), a citizens' group investigating abusive police and intelligence practices and who has provided much of the data for the Congressional hearings, has collected many affidavits from American citizens who have been victimized, arrested, imprisoned and tortured by Interpol agents abroad.

An international businessman working in Washington, D.C. who is currently filing a \$9 million suit against Interpol for false arrest, was arrested and imprisoned in Germany (while vacationing) for "kidnapping" his own children; a California navigator was tortured by electric cattle prods in Mexico. An internationally famous author whose book showing Interpol's involvement in protecting Nazi war criminals in South America, was the victim of a covert campaign of false reports to publishers in Europe to prevent publication of his book, which later became a best seller.

These are only a few examples of Interpol harassment of American citizens, yet as NCLE officials state, the extent of the assault on American citizens by Interpol is yet to be realized, as many do not even know that the harassment originated from this organization.

Despite its continued growth, Interpol has been embarrassingly ineffective in curbing crime. It can account for only 18 arrests per country per year, fewer than California makes in 2 hours. Indeed, international crime has in-



creased in the last few years, while the agency refuses to curb such crimes as highjacking.

Some explanations for Interpol's inefficiency were uncovered in recent testimony by the NCLE's Director of Research, Vaughn Young before the House Subcommittee on Treasury Appropriations, chaired by Rep. Tom Sted (D-Okla.).

According to Mr. Young's testimony, foreign officials of Interpol have been secretly trafficking in narcotics and extorting money from other traffickers.

The testimony included a report from the Agency for International Development (AID) which concerns the Bolivian Police and an Interpol unit there. It cited cocaine as the corrupting influence which led to the arrest of 2 Interpol chiefs in La Paz. Young added that material had been shown to him implicating French intelligence services in the trafficking of narcotics. Young said all reports seen by him were from last year or current, indicating that the French connection is alive and well right under the nose of Interpol headquarters.

Young produced affidavits from the CIA which linked convicted Watergate conspirator Egil "Bud" Krogh to Interpol activity. Only last month, Rep. Joshua Eilberg (D-Pa.) revealed to Interpol officials appearing before his Subcommittee on Immigration that information had been given the Subcommittee that Nixon aides had used Interpol to blackmail multinational corporations for funds.

The Interpol-CIA affidavits came from a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) suit brought by the NCLE last year. The CIA admitted to having 11 documents regarding their cooperation with Interpol, but have refused to release them. Affidavits filed in a Los Angeles District Court identify the 11 documents by dates and some names. Krogh's name appears on 4 of the 11 documents. It is not known if the material supports Eilberg's investigation or indicates another link to the Nixon Administration.

Young's testimony is further born out by a recent General Accounting Office (GAO) report which found, among other things, that there were no major

crime figures or crime syndicates in Interpol's files, but instead, a concentration on students and military personnel involved in drugs.

Not surprisingly, Interpol claims that Nazi war criminals are not part of its jurisdiction. Yet its publication, the International Criminal Police Review, has made such overt remarks as "Jewish offenders have a preference of offenses which require the use of craftiness . . . that explains why Interpol . . . has so many Jewish names in its files," written by Paul Marabuto in April 1950. This is reminiscent of another more recent "enemies" list — the IRS enemies list which included many religious organizations, the Church of Scientology among them.

Nazi infiltration of law enforcement agencies is a well-known fact. As the Nazi empire began to crumble, a great deal of attention was placed by Nazi leaders on Nazi escape routes, and this meant getting police cooperation.

Jeff Sternberg, a writer and reporter for the L.A. Free Press, proposes a possible scenario in his article "Did Interpol Save Postwar Nazis?"

"For Nazis living in the Reich in 1945 to be able to survive the oncoming defeat and regroup their forces to build for a new Fourth Reich, several things were needed. In 1946, those things happened, fell neatly into place, permitting the Nazis undisturbed opportunities to survive and grow, opportunities which exist to this day.

"Consider Martin Bormann. For Bormann to leave Germany, ideally he would need a party organization to get him out, as well as a powerful international organization to cover for him and his escape organization. Contacts in the U.S.A. would be helpful, particularly if those contacts included 2 Federal agencies which had secret agents working for them. Finally, he would need a friendly government in a new country to receive him. As an additional safeguard and to cover the tracks of people and communications between Latin America and the world, an authority on Latin America would be helpful. All this would take large amounts of money.

"Consider the possible scenario: In 1946, a Colonel

Helms, possibly Richard Helms of the OSS (later CIA) turns over the Nazi booty to F. E. Louwage of the Belgian police, who petitioned the OSS for its return for Interpol's use. Helms returns to the U.S.A. to help form the CIA.

"J. Edgar Hoover, listed by the Gestapo as a 'cooperating agent' in 1942, is secretly elected vice-president of Interpol in 1946. Between Hoover at the FBI and Helms at the CIA — continuing the scenario — Interpol would now have a clear vision of U.S. interest into the whereabouts of Nazis after the war.

"In 1946, Juan Peron comes to power in Argentina, giving a safe haven to the Nazis and their loot.

"Nelson Rockefeller, whose family had helped build the Max Planck Institute (the psychosurgery school which graduated the Nazi perpetrators of 'medical experiments' at the concentration camps, as well as Richard Nixon's psychiatrist) serves as assistant secretary of state for American Republic Affairs (Latin American Affairs) until August, 1945.

"In July 1946 the Rockefeller brothers formed the American International Association for Economic and Social Development (AIA), which according to the White House, 'sponsored nonprofit projects in Latin America.' A Rockefeller would be a valuable asset as a banker for all the money transfers and for contacts in Latin America.

"The above is still only a scenario. Sorting fact from fiction, investigators, both private and congressional, attempt to determine the extent to which Interpol and the Nazis are still working to institute a new Reich in 1975."

As Jeff Friedman summarized, "Interpol is an investigative force answerable to no one, but like the merchant of secrets, it will provide information to keep itself alive. The public has a right to know what an organization that welcomes fascist, terrorist and communist police alike is doing here." Representative Beard (D-R.I.) put it more bluntly, "Interpol is a threat to every man, woman and child in this country."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

I have been having some correspondence with Ernest Welker at American Institute for Economic Research. As a result, I wanted to check something in Ludwig von Mises' *Human Action*. I thereby came across the following quote:

"According to the advocates of the inflationist view of history, inflation by and large tends to increase the earnings of the entrepreneurs. They reason this way: Commodity prices rise sooner and to a steeper level than wage rates. On the one hand, wage earners and salaried people, classes who spend the greater part of their income for consumption and save little, are adversely affected and must accordingly restrict their expenditures. On the other hand, the proprietary strata of the population, whose propensity to save a considerable part of their income is much greater, are favored: they do not increase their consumption in proportion, but also increase their savings. Thus in the community as a whole (sic) there arises a tendency toward an intensified accumulation of new capital. Additional investment is the corollary of the restriction of consumption imposed upon that part of the population which consumes the much greater part of the annual produce of the economic system. This forced savings (author's italics) lowers the rate of originary interest. It accelerates the pace of economic progress and the improvement in technological methods."

Source: *Human Action*, Ludwig von Mises, New Revised Edition, Yale University Press, 1963, pages 548-549

Doesn't that amount to "Conspiracy Theory" by your standards?

Eric Way

**MAE BRUSSEL REFUTES  
ROBERT ANTON WILSON!**

To the Editor:

Some of Wilson's conclusions and glib answers should be



challenged (See Spring 1977 Issue for Wilson Interview).

That Leary was "in the hole at Folsom," or survived prison because of "higher ideas" is crap. I know men who were in prison with Leary. Leary didn't suffer one bit. He was Folsom's Harvard guru, protected in a small area, flown out of the country, worked with by the DEA-FBI-CIA, lodged at a fancy hotel, fed steak with the FED's . . . all with the help of U.S. officials. If the government didn't want to use Leary, he would be where his buddies of equal intelligence are today: behind bars.

Wilson thinks the ruling elitists are absurd, fumbling, stupid freaks, unable to use their information. That is untrue. Secrets are not more dangerous to those who hoard them. Secrets in the hands of J. Edgar Hoover, the CIA, FBI, IRS, etc. are used to blackmail, move men out of power, conceal murders, buy Supreme Court Judges, and control every aspect of our lives.

Secrets are power . . . the elitists have them and know how to use them. They love secrets for a very good reason.

I liked CONSPIRACY DIGEST'S questions, they blew my mind! Complacency does put power in the elite's hands, contrary to Wilson.

Ask Wilson or Leary anything practical about today's miseries, and they change the subject. They are brainwashed pied pipers leading any young people who won't join "Reverend Moon" into a fantasy world of planets and space travel.

White sugar is a drug in cake icing used to induce us to consume the white flour. Sugar is, literally, a reward for eating the cake. Lilly, Fuller, Wilson, and Leary are the white sugar frosting that sweeps people into happy time, scooping them up into a dream world so they will avoid facing the reality of a good diet of sound action. Leary, Wilson and their like are used by the CIA Intelligence Community to sugar sweet the yellow brick road to Oz, while the means to enslave mankind are being manufactured under our noses.

Buckminster Fuller spoke at my son David's graduation June 7, 1968. It was the day of Robert Kennedy's funeral. Fuller spoke about bizarre events, light-years

away from reality. The audience pretended to be interested, to be in awe of the "great" Fuller. If his speech had been appropriate to the power struggle the young graduates were going out into the world to experience, he would have shaken that young group awake to the reality that they would be living in a world of corruption, assassins, crime, White House secret armies . . . etc.

The biggest obstacle in exposing conspiracies that exist in fact (like the 14 bullets in the Ambassador Hotel, versus the eight bullet revolver of Sirhan Sirhan), is that the men who represent the so-called "liberal-left" have sold-out and are now owned show pieces to divert attention from the reality of tyranny.

—Mae Brussel

Editor's Note: Mae Brussel is a well-known, radical conspiracy researcher and assassination investigator. She has a radio program in Los Angeles, will appear in a forthcoming movie *The Hughes Mystery*, and will be the subject of a soon to be published article by Paul Krasner in *Oui Magazine* — "The Mind of Mae Brussel." Mae Brussel has tentatively agreed to be interviewed by CONSPIRACY DIGEST.

## CONSPIRACY MEDIA REVIEW AND DIRECTORY

In this issue, CONSPIRACY DIGEST continues its unique tradition of providing free advertising for its competition. But that is required by our purpose — to enable advanced students of conspiracy and politico-economic intrigue to study diverse materials. Our comments are not meant to be judgemental, but descriptive, as an aid in your search for truth.

Although right-wing publications are emphasized in this issue, we intend eventually to list all sources of conspiracy theory and fact, right and left!

*The Truth Crusader*, Box 959, Harrisonburg, Va. 22801  
Stresses relationship of health and drug issues to the conspiracy — conservative outlook.

*The Thunderbolt (The White Man's Viewpoint)*, Box 1211, Marietta, Ga. 30061.

Organ of White collectivist

National State's Rights Party. Don't expect any conspiracy info that doesn't fit into the anti-Black, anti-Jew outlook. Does break some valuable conspiracy news. Recently: Amy Carter removed from public school in D.C. without the fanfare with which she entered. Press black-out conspiracy? Stuart Eizenstaat, rather than Brzezinski, is alleged to be shaping up as Carter's Kissinger-like controller.

*The Journal of Libertarian Studies*, Editor: Murray N. Rothbard. c/o Center for Libertarian Studies, 200 Park Avenue South, Suite 911, N.Y., N.Y. 10003

While too many "libertarians" naively defend today's dominant Wall Street capitalists as free-enterprisers, Murray Rothbard's brand of libertarianism does not. In the Winter, 1977 issue of his new magazine he published a scholarly treatise on what we prefer to call conspiracy theory: "Toward A Theory of State Capitalism: Ultimate Decision Making and Class Structure" by W. E. Grinder and J. Hagel III.

Especially interesting is the conception developed of "Fox" and "Lion" factions of the ruling class/conspiracy. "Lions" attempt to rigidly defend an existing pattern of power, while "Foxes" attempt to be masters of change. Although not discussed in the article, it should be clear that the dominant International Bankers are "Foxes," the last significant "Lions" were dispatched in the 1930's.

*East West*, Box 305, Dover, N.J. 07801.

Not really conspiracy, but occult, oriented. May 1977 issue tended to confirm parts of Dr. Josephson's theory that Federalist John Adams was the Illuminati agent among the Founding Fathers. *The Adams Family and the Grail Tradition: The Untold Chronicle of the Dragon Persecution* reveals that the Adamases fled England as persecuted members of an Illuminati-type organization called the Dragons.

*Gnostica*, Box 3383-GN41, St. Paul, Mn. 55165

Occult connections of Founding Fathers often discussed — favorably . . .

*Preparation*, 25 West Grant Street, Healdsburg, Cal. 95448.

Those who have read only Richard Gilman's analysis of the Sufi question will want to read *Preparation* for balance. Writers are obviously influenced by Gurdjieff and Ouspensky's Sufi-like teachings. The first issue (June, 1977) was devoted almost entirely to sophisticated conspiracy hypotheses. Fascinating analysis of hidden message in Walter Lippman's writing and popular movies. Review of U.S. Labor Party theories. Must reading!

*Tactics: The Only Professional "Psywar" Journal*, Box 3541, Arlington, Va. 22203.

Conservative anti-communism. Some conspiracy analysis. Broke story on Carroll Quigley's death. Written by Edward Hunter, author of *Brainwashing*.

*Instauration*, Box 76, Cape Canaveral, Fla. 32920.

Perhaps the most sophisticated Anglo-Saxon collectivist magazine, published by the anonymous author of *The Dispossessed Majority*. Some conspiracy topics. Devastating expose of Col. Michael Goleniewski in April, 1977 issue. (Goleniewski, a favorite in conservative circles, claims to be heir to Czar Nicholas.)

Fascinating dramatization (*The Game and the Candle*) of secret conspiratorial history of U.S. ran as a series in 1976.

*The Double Eagle*, Box 281, Murray Hill Station, N.Y., N.Y.

Goleniewski's side of the story. Some years ago our *Occult Technology of Power* was plagiarized in the *Double Eagle*.

*American Challenge*, 1149 14th Place S.W., B'ham, Ala. 35211.

Serves as a clipping service for the conspiracy buff. Reproduces those little-noticed articles in the Establishment Press that tips the elite's hand.

*Seminar Tapes and Books*, Box 2613, Greenville, S.C. 29602.

Anti-Masonic Christian conservative. George Washington's alleged surrender to Cornwallis via Masonry.

*Steppingstones*, Box 612, Silver Spring, Md. 20901.

Anti-Semitic conspiracy theory.

*Crusader*, Box 624, Metairie, La. 70004

Ku Klux Klan conspiracy theories.



*Censored*, 762 Avenue "N," S.E., Winter Haven, Fla. 33880.

Directory to unpopular, censored viewpoints including many conspiracy sources.

*Liberty Bell*, Box 21, Reedy, W. Va. 25270

Anti-Semitic, pro-Nazi conspiracy theories.

*Salon Publishing*, Box 91, Norborne, Mo. 64668

*Minute Men* organizer Robert DePugh (now out of jail) publishes through this company. Interesting information on FBI penetration of right-wing organizations with informers and spies. DePugh, in co-operation with Robert Shelton's Ku Klux Klan, now administers lie detector tests regularly to all their members. They advocate public lie detector tests for all right-wing leaders!

*Randall Operation Survival*, Box 457-714 Eucalyptus, Ocean-side, Ca. 92054.

Controversial *Gemstone File* (alleged chronology of conspiracy behind events since WWII).

*The Ozark Sunbeam*, Duverus Bldg., Seligman, Mo. 65745

Conservative oriented conspiracy newspaper for local distribution.

*End-Time Revelation Newsletter*, Box 1167, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814.

Biblical prophecy conservative - conspiracy oriented tabloid for mass distribution.

*Beacon*, 50 Pawson Rd., Croydon Surrey, CRO 2QF, Great Britain

Banking conspiracy from British-Nationalist viewpoint.

*Orthodox Roman Catholic Movement, Inc.*, Box 542, Stratford, Conn. 06497

Have Masonic conspirators seized the Catholic Church?

*The Continuing Inquiry*, Box 1140, Midlothian, Tx. 76065

Left-liberal Kennedy Assassination researcher, Penn Jones, writes extremely detailed newsletter on Intelligence Community intrigue.

*The National Educator*, Box 333, 1110 S. Pomona Ave., Fullerton, Cal. 92632

Conservative oriented tabloid for mass distribution covers conspiracy topics.

*The Independent American*, Box 636, Littleton, Colo. 80160

Phoebe Courtney's (conser-

vative conspiracy writer) newspaper for mass distribution.

*Benefactor Foundation*, Room 306 Park Avenue Bldg., 2011 Park Avenue, Detroit, Mich. 48226

Founded by the late inventor, aviator and anti-bankster Alfred Lawson. Similar to Social Credit idea.

*National Justice Foundation*, 1617 16th St., Sacramento, Cal. 95814

Biblical Christian conservative-anti-conspiracy.

*Freemen Institute*, Box 7060, Univ. Sta., Provo, Utah 84602

Founded by W. Cleon Skousen, the man who introduced *Tragedy and Hope* to the right-wing. *Freemen Report* — Tabloid.

*H. du B. Reports*, Box 786, St. George, Utah 84770.

Intelligence - conspiracy newsletter of Birch writer, Hilaire du Berrier.

*Health Research*, Box 70, Mokelleme Hill, Cal. 95245.

Far-out health theories, medical conspiracy theories.

Out of space for this issue. More reviews in next issue.

## NEW ATTACK ON JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

*The Belmont Brotherhood* by Nicholas J. Bove, Jr.

Get Us Out! P.O. Box 6167, Minneapolis, Minn. 55406

As a publisher who mails tens of thousands of catalogs to right-wing (as well as left-wing) lists, Alpine Enterprises receives mail from all points on the right-wing spectrum. For years we have received mail from an "underground" of disgruntled John Birch Society members, co-ordinators, and ex-chapter leaders.

To generalize, this "anti-Belmont" underground adopts the view that the failure of the JBS to reverse the tide of "socialist tyranny" in America is not an accident. Some in the underground feel that the JBS is merely a commercial enter-

prise capitalizing on frightened patriots, desperate to support any organization that claims it can stop the erosion of American liberties.

Others see the JBS as an integral branch of the conspiracy (*See The Belmont Brotherhood*) designed to collect and "neutralize" opposition to the Master Conspiracy's tyrannical program.

One or both of these conclusions are often deduced, it seems to us, from inadequate evidence. While the failure of the JBS to turn back Big Government "by the CFR, for the CFR and of the CFR" could be explained by JBS "profiteering or treason," other explanations seem equally likely, based on the evidence.

For instance, incompetence should be considered. Or even more likely: Unbeatable odds! After all, the International Bankers won their major victory over 50 years ago. The establishment of the Federal Reserve System landed the Bankers fabulous power! Should we really be surprised that the voluntarily funded JBS has a hard time in the battle?

Also, we should remember that fund-raising is a necessary pre-requisite to any successful political education program. A number of ex-Birchers seem to resent the emphasis on membership dues and fund-raising. In reality, the JBS's failures are most likely due to inadequate emphasis on fund-raising.

## BELMONT SEX SCANDAL

Nicholas Bove, a former research assistant to Robert Welch in Belmont, has previously written *The Belmont Conspiracy of Silence* and *The Anatomy of a Smear*, exposés of an illicit sexual affair (alleged to have occurred between employees of the Belmont office) and the effort of the JBS leadership to cover it up.

Frankly, we think, from reading Bove's own accounts, that Bove was applying his zealous sexual morals where he had no business. We simply do not believe in "policing" the peaceful sexual behavior of others.

In any event Bove parted company with the JBS after creating quite a storm of charges and counter-charges. Robert Welch is alleged to have charged that Bove's puritan behavior in-

dicated that Bove is a latent homosexual.

## THE BELMONT BROTHERHOOD

The title of Bove's latest attack on the JBS refers to the mysterious "Brotherhood" in Orwell's 1984 which pretends to oppose the totalitarian "Big Brother" government. Bove writes from the viewpoint of a traditional Roman Catholic and identifies Masonry as the very heart of the Master Conspiracy. Bove quotes from the mysterious, 19th Century Masonic leader Albert Pike that the highest degrees of Masonry consciously worship Lucifer instead of God. (Pike's *Morals and Dogma* is available on special request from Alpine Enterprises).

Bove focuses on the Masonic connections of numerous JBS Council members as well as one-time CFR memberships and Federal Reserve Bank directorships.

One founding Council member, Frederick Chase Koch, was cited for building oil refineries in the Soviet Union. E. Merrill Root is cited for alleged communist sympathies during the 1920's.

While these facts bear further research Bove seems to refuse to consider anything other than duplicity as an explanation. E. Merrill Root no doubt repented the red sympathies of his youth. It is a published fact that Koch lived to repent his trade with the Soviet Union.

Also overlooked is the fact that the conspirators promote the CFR as a prestigious, non-political "honor society." That wealthy right-wing businessmen were enticed to join is not surprising. The point should be whether they fell for the CFR line, or resigned when they discovered the CFR leadership's tyrannical purposes. Clearly, many Masons appear to be sincere anti-Communists.

To this reviewer the *Belmont Brotherhood* remains, for now, an unlikely hypothesis emanating from disgruntled and bitter ex-Birchers. However, such research deserves close scrutiny. Bove's staff is busily searching for more damning "coincidences" which will be presented along with a more complete argument in his soon to be published book version of *Belmont Brotherhood*.